

CATEGORY J
MUSCULOSKELETAL ABNORMALITY OR
CHRONIC MEDICAL DEBILITY

1. Other categories have been developed to cover most of the more common conditions which may affect driving safety. This category J includes a variety of chronic conditions not readily included elsewhere, which have in common their potential effect upon driving safety. In some of them, medical judgement may be of primary importance in determining limitations on driving, such as osteoporosis or active infectious disease, as they affect the safety of the driver or passengers or other vehicles. In others, the basis for limitation of driving privileges will be the functional motor impairment for the specific acts of operating a vehicle, such as amputations or congenital abnormalities, using compensatory devices as needed.
2. In case of obvious paralysis or absence or abnormality of limbs, etc., an applicant may be required to pass a driving test with or without compensatory aids. A profile level may be based on the health care professional's examination and recommendations. For stable conditions, the interval for re-evaluation may be extended to the usual re-licensing interval, but in unstable situations, the health care professional should recommend shorter intervals depending upon the nature of the problem.
3. Many persons with chronic illness require medications for pain and other symptoms which may interfere with alertness or coordination. Use of such medications should be taken into consideration in assigning a profile level. The individual should be cautioned that they are responsible to refrain from driving when their condition or medications seem to affect driving ability.
4. **COMMERCIAL INTRASTATE DRIVERS:** The health care professional may indicate a profile for commercial intrastate driving and indicate the need for a driving test by checking the driving test box at the bottom of the Functional Ability Report form.

